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TECHNICIAN ERROR CAUSES VOTING DELAY IN MOREHOUSE PARISH

BATON ROUGE, LA – A technician made an error that caused a delay in voting in Morehouse Parish Saturday morning.

After the machines in 40 of the 50 precincts in Morehouse Parish had been tested, a technician mistakenly decided to then change the paper in the machines and inserted the paper incorrectly. As a result, voters were not able to vote on the machines when the polls opened. As soon as the Secretary of State's office was notified of the problem, technicians from neighboring parishes were sent to Morehouse Parish to correct the mistake. In the meantime, paper ballots were sent to the affected precincts to allow for voting to proceed.

“Though it was not an intentional mistake, it was a mistake made by one of our employees and the buck stops with me,” Secretary of State Al Ater said. “I am not pleased with the time that it took to allow voters to proceed with casting their votes on the paper ballots, but that is something that we will address as soon as this election has concluded. We are working with the clerk and the registrar of voters in Morehouse Parish to insure that everyone that wants to vote is able to cast their ballot.”

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